



Water Conservation Tips

25 ways you can reduce water usage inside your home

- Turn the water off when brushing your teeth and save 4 gallons a minute. That's 200 gallons a week for a family of four.
- Turn the water off when you shave and you can save more than 100 gallons a week.
- Time your shower to keep it under 5 minutes. You'll save up to 1000 gallons a month. Also install low-flow shower heads.
- Turn the water off while you shampoo and condition your hair and you can save more than 50 gallons a week.
- Wash your car on the lawn, and you'll water your lawn at the same time.
- Operate your washing machine and dish washer only when they are full and you could save 1000 gallons a month.
- When doing laundry, match the water level to the size of the load.
- Soak your pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean.
- Wash produce in the sink or pan that is partially filled with water instead of running water from the tap.
- Don't use running water to thaw food.
- Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap for cold drinks.
- Designate one glass for your drinking water each day. This will cut down on the number of times you run your dishwasher.
- Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Compost instead and save gallons every time.
- Use a commercial car wash that recycles water.
- Check for leaks in taps, pipes and hoses. One slow drip can waste 20 gallons of water a day (7,000 gallons a year)
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean your driveway and sidewalk and save water every time.
- Bathe your young children together.
- When washing your hands, don't run the water while you lather.
- Insulate hot water pipes so you don't have to run as much hot water to the faucet.
- When running a bath, plug the tub before turning the water on, then adjust the temperature as the tub fills up.
- Cut back on rinsing if your dishwasher is new. Newer models clean more thoroughly than older ones.
- Make sure your toilet flapper doesn't stick after flushing.
- Put food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the toilet bowl, you have a leak. It's easy to fix and you can save more than 600 gallons a month.
- When you clean your fish tank, use the water you've drained on your plants. The water is rich in nitrogen and phosphorus, providing you with a free and effective fertilizer.
- Use 5 percent less water. Read your latest utility bill and note how many gallons you consumed. Simply multiply the number of gallons by .05---that's your 5 percent goal. For example, 5000 gallons multiplied by .05 = 250 gallons.

***For more water conservation ideas, contact
City of Bloomington Utilities at 349-3940***